

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LEISURE COMMITTEE
OF BARTON-LE-CLAY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE PARISH OFFICE, 1 WINDSOR PARADE
ON 27th JANUARY 2025 COMMENCING AT 8.30pm

Present: Councillors A Vale (Chair), B Thomas (Vice-Chair), K Qureshi, A Tebb, G Gardner
Attending: S Cowie (Assistant Clerk)
Minutes Taken by: S Cowie

24/401 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – These were received from Councillor J Paxton and J Mikkelson.

24/402 SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – Members were reminded of the procedures. There were no declarations made.

24/403 MATTERS ARISING

Following the independent inspection of the newly installed play area, Sovereign Play have returned to site to alter the self-closing gate. All equipment and the gate have now been signed off and are compliant.

The routine pest control check of the allotments was undertaken by PPM Pest Control on 21st January 2025. There was evidence of takes and all bait was replenished. There were no recommendations, and the next check will take place as per the schedule.

Re: Minute Point 357.4 Planning permission has been granted by Central Bedfordshire Council to cut back an overgrown tree which has caused damage to the perimeter fence in the Recreation Ground Play Area. The contractor will be on site as soon as possible to carry out the work.

24/404 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE LEISURE COMMITTEE HELD ON 25th NOVEMBER 2024

A copy of the minutes was provided to all members ahead of the meeting. Councillor Vale **PROPOSED** approval of the minutes of 25th November 2024, **SECONDED** by Councillor Thomas with **3 IN FAVOUR and 2 ABSENTIONS**. The minutes were approved.

24/405 TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE WEEKLY INSPECTIONS OF THE PLAYGROUND AND FITNESS EQUIPMENT

The inspections of the Norman Road and Arnold Recreation Ground Play Areas and Fitness Equipment undertaken by the Groundsmen on 13th and 20th January were acknowledged. Everything was in order.

24/406 TO AGREE THE PLAN TO REVIEW THE GATES AT THE RECREATION GROUND

Following discussion, it was agreed that a site visit should be arranged. In the meantime, the Assistant Clerk was asked to forward photographs of the current gates and options for replacements to members.

24/407 TO CONSIDER SIGNAGE FOR THE FITNESS EQUIPMENT

Following discussion, it was agreed that a quotation for a suitable sign should be sought.
ACTION: Assistant Clerk to seek quotes and clarify the age suitability of the existing equipment with the supplier.

24/408 TO CONSIDER THE NEXT STAGE OF THE PLAY EQUIPMENT PROJECT

Councillor Vale declared a non-pecuniary interest as they are a member of staff at the Middle School. Councillor Thomas declared a non-pecuniary interest as they are a trustee of the Barton Educational Trust.

Members reviewed the outstanding actions which have been discussed by the Play Equipment Working Group. The Assistant Clerk was asked to progress the actions and provide quotes for consideration. With regard to the flooding issue in the play area, the meeting with the Educational Trust will take place on 30th January to discuss the issue further.

24/409 TO REVIEW AND AGREE THE PARISH COUNCILS ACTION PLAN 2025/26 FOR THE LEISURE COMMITTEE

Members reviewed the Committees Action Plan for 2025/26. In addition to general maintenance and the weekly and annual inspections of the play and fitness equipment, the following projects were added to the Action Plan. In the Norman Road Play Area - consider installing additional benches,

review the perimeter fence and continue the refurbishment of the play equipment. Arnold Recreation Ground – review the annual hedge cutting contract, park gates and consider seating. The flooding issue in the play area is ongoing.

Councillor Vale **PROPOSED** approval of the Leisure Committee Action Plan for 2025/26, **SECONDED** by Councillor Tebbe and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

24/410 ANY OTHER BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE OR FOR INCLUSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA – for information only

Outstanding items for future meetings are to discuss hedge planting in Norman Road play area and plot markers for the allotments. The quotes for a picnic bench and sign for the fitness equipment will be considered at the next committee meeting. There was no further business.

The meeting closed at 9.39pm.